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LETTER DATED 20 DECEMBER 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF UGANDA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the positive developments which have taken place between Uganda and the Sudan, resulting in an agreement facilitated by the Carter Center and President Daniel arap Moi of Kenya (see annex). The agreement was signed by President Museveni of Uganda and President Bashir of the Sudan.

I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Semakula KIWANUKA
Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary,
Permanent Representative of
Uganda to the United Nations

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Annex

Uganda and the Sudan sign agreement, 8 December 1999

President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda and President Omar al Bashir of the Sudan have agreed on the steps to be taken to re-establish relations between their two countries and to work towards promoting peace in the region.

The two leaders today signed an agreement in Nairobi in which they committed their countries to make every effort to disband and disarm terrorist groups that may be operating in their respective countries.

The two leaders signed the agreement today at State House, Nairobi, after a day's talks held to discuss the problems between Uganda and the Sudan and possible solutions. The talks were organized by the Carter Center, a non-governmental organization that promotes peace and health worldwide. The signing of the agreement was witnessed by President Daniel arap Moi of Kenya and former United States President Jimmy Carter, who is also the chairman of the Carter Center.

According to the agreement, Uganda and the Sudan committed themselves to renouncing the use of force to resolve differences and to taking steps to prevent any hostile actions against each other. They agreed to prevent any acts of terrorism or hostile actions that might originate in their respective territories that might endanger the security of the other country. They further agreed not to harbour, sponsor or give military or logistical support to any rebel groups, opposition groups or hostile elements from each other's territory. The two countries will also refrain from hostile or negative propaganda campaigns against each other and would return all prisoners of war to their respective nations.

The two leaders condemned any abuse or injury of innocent civilians and said they would make a special effort to locate any abductees, especially children abducted in the past, and return them to their families. They committed themselves to cooperating fully in the search for and rescue of the victims, starting immediately with those who can be identified, and will offer amnesty and reintegration assistance to all former combatants who renounce the use of force.

The two leaders expressed their desire to re-establish relations between their two countries if all the terms of the agreement are honoured satisfactorily. They therefore agreed to open, within a month, offices in Kampala and Khartoum and place there junior diplomatic personnel, following which ambassadors will be exchanged and full diplomatic relations restored by the end of February 2000.

In addition, as soon as is practical, the two countries will establish a joint ministerial committee, with at least three subcommittees, to deal with political, security and humanitarian issues.